

RESTRICTED

CCPA

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6 October 1989

From The Secretary of State for Wales

NBAM

*Rec 6
6/10*

file with PG,

[Handwritten signature]

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 26 September to Chris Patten about the exemption of severely mentally impaired people from community charge.

I agree that we have a difficult situation concerning the exemption of sufferers from Alzheimer's disease, and I support the proposed administrative solution to extend the types of benefit that are used to decide eligibility. It does seem to provide some positive solutions to the difficulties that have arisen as a result of the present limited scope of exemptions, without significantly increasing the number of people exempted from paying the community charge.

I am content therefore to proceed with the proposals set out in your letter.

/ I am sending a copy of this letter to Chris Patten, other members of E(LG), and to Sir Robin Butler.

[Handwritten signature]

Lord James Douglas-Hamilton
Minister for Home Affairs and the
Environment
Scottish Office
New St Andrews House
St James Centre
Edinburgh
EH1 3SX

Local Govt
Action of atiny
System/Community Charge.

